

Amendments to the Specification

- 1) Please delete the cover page in its entirety.
- 2) Please insert the following title at the top of page 1 of the specification:
Plasma cutting process with dual gas flow
- 3) Please insert the following paragraph beginning at page 1, after the title:
This application claims the benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a) and (b) 1 to French Application No. 0303301, filed March 18, 2003, the entire contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

- 4) Please insert the following subtitles:
At page 1, below above-referenced paragraph:

Background of the Invention

1. Field of the Invention

At page 1, line 6:

2. Related Art

At page 4, line 27:

Summary of the Invention

- 5) Please add the following subtitle and text at page 4, line 37:

Brief Description of the Drawings

For a further understanding of the nature and objects for the present invention, reference should be made to the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which like elements are given the same or analogous reference numbers and wherein:

- Figure 1 illustrates a single-flow torch.
- Figure 2 illustrates a dual-flow torch.
- Figure 3 illustrates plasma cutting torch of the type with dual plasma-gas injection in accordance with one illustrative embodiment of the present invention.

- 6) Please add the following subtitle and text at page 4, after the above-referenced paragraph:

Description of Preferred Embodiments

- 7) Please add the following paragraph to page 9, line 11:

It will be understood that many additional changes in the details, materials, steps and arrangement of parts, which have been herein described in order to explain the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the specific embodiments in the examples given above.

- 8) Please add the following subtitle and text at page 13, line 1:

Abstract of the Disclosure

A plasma arc cutting process for cutting a metal workpiece, in which a dual-gas-flow torch fitted with an electrode with an emissive insert is used, the torch delivering a central gas stream and an annular gas stream, the annular stream being delivered peripherally to the central gas stream, the central gas stream contains a hydrogen-nitrogen mixture and the peripheral gas stream contains carbon dioxide. The invention also relates to a unit utilizing such a torch.